

Ref. T2/6.04

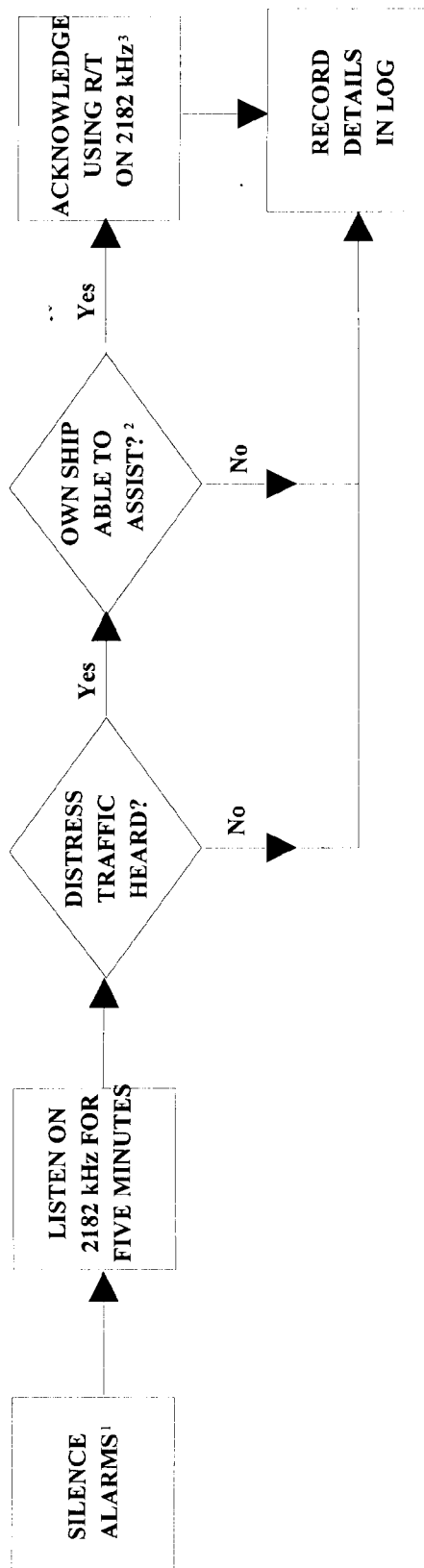
**PROCEDURE FOR RESPONDING TO AN MF (2187.5 kHz)
DSC DISTRESS ALERT IN SEA AREAS A2**

1 The Sub-Committee on Radiocommunications and Search and Rescue (COMSAR), at its first session (19 to 23 February 1996), decided that digital selective calling (DSC) acknowledgements and relays of distress alerts on all shipborne DSC equipment should only be actuated manually (see also COMSAR/Circ.1) and prepared a Procedure for Responding to an MF (2187.5 kHz) DSC Distress Alert in Sea Areas A2, given at annex, recommending that it be displayed on the ship's bridge as an A4 size poster.

2 Member Governments are invited to bring the annexed Procedure to the attention of their shipowners, seafarers and all others concerned.

ANNEX

PROCEDURE FOR RESPONDING TO AN MF (2187.5 kHz) DSC DISTRESS ALERT IN SEA AREAS A2



- 1 DO NOT SEND A DSC ACKNOWLEDGEMENT. It can be assumed the DSC call will have been heard and acknowledged by a Coast Station whose transmissions may be out of range of your own ship. If further DSC distress alerts are received from the same source and the ship in distress is, beyond doubt, in the vicinity, a DSC acknowledgement may then be sent to terminate the call and a Rescue Co-Ordination Centre informed.
- 2 If it is clear the ship or persons in distress are not in the vicinity and/or other craft are better placed to assist, superfluous communications which could interfere with search and rescue activities are to be avoided. Details should be recorded in the appropriate log books.
- 3 The ship should establish communications with the station controlling the distress as directed and render such assistance as required and appropriate.

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